

Submission  
No 649

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE  
FACILITIES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 23 October 2025

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Partially  
Confidential

## **Submission: Opposition to Proposed Parkes Waste Incinerator**

**From:** \_\_\_\_\_, Parkes resident, retired NSW road worker

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed waste incinerator in Parkes. I have lived and worked in this community for many years, raising my family here with my wife, \_\_\_\_\_. Having spent a career maintaining and repairing roads across New South Wales, I know firsthand how much pride people in regional towns take in keeping their areas safe, clean, and liveable. This project threatens all of that.

I cannot understand how a waste incinerator is considered unsuitable for Sydney where most of the waste is produced yet somehow acceptable for Parkes. Why should our town become the dumping ground for other people's rubbish? We already manage our own waste responsibly and shouldn't have to take on contaminated materials from elsewhere.

I've seen the waste trains travelling through the region. They leak, they smell, and they're not something anyone wants near their home. The thought of even more of these trains, full of toxic waste, passing through and unloading here is worrying. There are serious risks to our air quality, local farms and food production, and our drinking water both in town and in rural tanks.

**Farming and health are at the heart of our community.** Parkes and the surrounding districts rely heavily on agriculture, and any contamination of soil, crops, or livestock would have devastating consequences. Toxins from incinerator emissions or ash can settle on pasture and in waterways, entering the food chain and affecting both human and animal health. Once the land or water is contaminated, it can't simply be repaired. Farmers work hard to produce clean, safe food this project puts that at risk and could damage the reputation of our region's produce for generations.

There's also the issue of vermin around the trains and at the proposed site. These problems, along with pollution and odour, will devalue land and property and destroy the image of Parkes as a clean, proud regional town.

Like my wife, I do my best to **recycle, reuse, and reduce** to cut down on waste. We're all encouraged to do that, so why is the government planning to ship other people's toxic waste hundreds of kilometres to burn it here? Wouldn't it make much more sense and cost less to process it closer to where it's created?

It feels like the health and wellbeing of smaller communities like ours don't count as much when big decisions are made. But our families, our land, and our future matter just as much as anyone's in the city.

Parkes deserves better clean, sustainable industries and renewable projects that benefit our town, not a polluting incinerator that puts us all at risk.

Please, don't approve this project. Protect the people, environment, and future of Parkes.

Parkes, NSW